

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEL AV 02800 201548Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 PM-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 L-03
TRSE-00 ACDA-10 MC-02 EB-08 /085 W
-----202216Z 027328 /62

R 201412Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5812

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 2800

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MASS, PINS, IS
SUBJECT: ISRAELI EXPORT OF KFIR AND CO-PRODUCTION OF F-16 AIRCRAFT

REFS: (A) TEL AVIV 2672; (B) TEL AVIV 1720

1. OVER THE PAST FEW DAYS WASHINGTON-BASED ISRAELI NEWSMEN HAVE REPORTED THAT US AGENCIES (DOD, CIA AND STATE) HAVE RECOMMENDED AGAINST THE EXPORT OF KFIRS TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND ALSO AGAINST THE CO-PRODUCTION OF THE F-16 IN ISRAEL. THE REPORTS NOTE THAT ALTHOUGH THE RECOMMENDATIONS DID NOT MENTION ANY STATES BY NAME, THE US CLEARLY WOULD APPROVE KFIR SALES ONLY TO STATES SUCH AS AUSTRIA. CHANCES FOR APPROVAL OF EXPORTS TO SOUTH AMERICAN COUNTRIES WERE CONSIDERED SLIGHT. ISRAELI SOURCES ARE QUOTED AS STATING THAT USG DEPARTMENTS ARE NOT ONLY AGAINST ISRAELI CO-PRODUCTION OF THE F-16, BUT ARE EVEN OPPOSED TO ISRAEL PRODUCING F-16 PARTS FOR WHICH THE ISRAELI AIR FORCE HAS PUT IN SPECIAL ORDERS.

2. THE ARTICLES STATE THAT THE DENIAL OF CO-PRODUCTION RIGHTS WILL SOON FORCE ISRAEL TO DECIDE WHETHER TO PURCHASE THE F-16 OR CONCENTRATE ON PRODUCING AN AIRCRAFT OF ITS OWN. SIDES ON THIS ISSUE ARE ALREADY BEING DRAWN, WITH THE ISRAELI AIR FORCE FAVORING PURCHASE OF THE F-16,
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AND CERTAIN QUARTERS IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE OPPOSING AN OUTRIGHT PURCHASE OF THE AIRCRAFT. THE LATTER FEEL THAT AN F-16 PURCHASE WITHOUT CO-PRODUCTION RIGHTS WOULD DEAL A DEATH BLOW TO THE AIRCRAFT INDUSTRY AND SERIOUSLY DAMAGE ISRAEL'S QUEST FOR GREATER SELF-RELIANCE IN DEFENSE PROCUREMENT. THEY ARE THEREFORE PRESSING FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW ISRAELI FIGHTER.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, FIGHTER AIRCRAFT, MISSILES, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 20-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977TELAV02800
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770137-0936
Format: TEL
From: TEL AVIV
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770436/aaaabezw.tel
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Litigation History:
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Message ID: be01b1a1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Reference: 77 TEL AVIV 2672, 77 TEL AVIV 1720
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ISRAELI EXPORT OF KFIR AND CO-PRODUCTION OF F-16 AIRCRAFT
TAGS: MASS, PINS, IS, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/be01b1a1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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